

Torrance Herald

TENTH YEAR

TORRANCE, CALIF., TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1924

NO 5

Permit Granted For 5000-Ft. Well

Bush And Voorhis Will Pioneer Low Levels In Lomita

State Gives Consent For Drilling First Deep Well In Proven Area On East Pine Street

BIG COMPANIES HAVE "LOW DOWN" DATA

Operators Place Stress On Interstratified Oil Sands Encountered By Deep Tests On Edges Of Field

To Bush and Voorhis, conservative operators with a splendid record of success at Signal Hill, will go the honor of drilling the first deep well in the proven area of Lomita.

At least this will be the case if Bush and Voorhis act in accordance with the permit for a deep well which has just been granted them by the state.

By the terms of this permit these operators are given authority to drill to a depth of 5000 feet on East Pine street, between Eshelman street and Narbonne avenue, Lomita.

The derrick for this well, Blanch Ingold No. 1, is already constructed and will be rigged up at once.

Four deep wells have already been drilled in the field. All have been wildcats, however, and were drilled by the larger companies, apparently for the purpose of securing geological data.

Near the city limits of Redondo the Union Oil company is still drilling Francis No. 1. It is known among operators that this company encountered interstratified sands at low levels.

On the northern edge of the field, but east of Union's Francis No. 2, Standard drilled Felker No. 1 to 6200 feet. A log of this well showed a series of interstratified sands at levels from which no production has ever been secured in the field.

The Shell company drilled a deep test well just east of the Redondo limits. It blew in when the well was down about 5000 feet, but was plugged back.

5400 Feet Deep
In the extreme southwestern area Union is drilling Weston No. 1. The bit has gone down 5400 feet and the company reports that while no commercial showings have been found, oil showings at several low levels have been encountered.

Operators are inclined to believe that sufficient geological data has been secured on this well, and all the other deep ones on the edges of the field, to assure the larger companies that the deeper sands inside the great

area formed by the test holes will be highly productive.

It is pointed out that the log of an edge well tells much to the geologist about formations in all directions.

It is recalled that interstratified sands were encountered by Union in the northwest, Shell and Standard further east but still on the northern edge, and again by Union in the southwest.

Optimism Prevails
The somewhat guarded, but none-the-less known logs of these deep wells have encouraged operators to a point where high hopes are entertained for the future of the proven area's deep sands.

It is now reported that the Shell company plans to drill Keystone No. 1 to a depth of 5000 feet or more. Inasmuch as this well is still a technical wildcat the company is permitted to drill down. If the Dutch company does pioneer deeper levels on the east side the big companies will then have data, from the surface to depths of a mile or more, on every side of the field.

With all this data from the deep wells at their command Shell, Standard and the Doheny interests are pushing drilling programs in the local field as they never have pushed them before. The confidence in the future of the field, which this development signifies, is based on no hazy idea of what lies below 4000 feet in the proven area, operators believe.

UNION TOOL CO. IS TAKING ON MORE WORKERS

Increase In Oil Prices Reflected At Torrance Plant

Increased demand for products manufactured by the Union Tool company, brought on by the raise in oil prices, has necessitated the employment of more men at the Torrance plant. The company is looking forward to a year of good production here as oil prices advance. Quite a number of men have been employed by the local plant during the past week.

The company is becoming a constant shipper of oil well supplies to all parts of the world. The latest shipment was of Ideal rotary equipment to the Dutch East Indies for the Royal Dutch-Shell company. The company has also shipped to India, South America and other parts of the world. The use of rotary equipment is increasing in foreign countries, and American supplies are in greater demand than ever.

COMING BACK

George Nugent of Yerington, Nev., is a guest of his brother, James F. Nugent. The visitor likes Torrance so well that he plans to return with his family and make his home here. Mr. Nugent will be interested in the oil business.

HOPE HE SELLS A LOT

S. D. Patterson is a recent entrant in the real estate game, and has opened an office on Redondo boulevard near Appian Way.

Don't miss the Stationery Sale at La Plante's Studio.—Adv.

1ST NATIONAL OFFERS FREE TAX SERVICE

Noted Expert Will Aid Patrons on Income Returns

To assist patrons in the preparation of their income tax reports, the First National bank announces that its escrow department will be devoted entirely to this purpose on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Feb. 6, 7 and 8, from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

At considerable expense to the bank the services of Melvin D. Wilson, noted authority on the income tax and well known income tax attorney, will be in charge of the work, which will be available without cost to the bank's patrons.

Grocery Manager Returns Lost Cash, Refuses Reward

This is a story of decency and honesty.

B. H. Osborne, 1534 Marcellina street, lost his wallet last Friday evening. In the wallet was a considerable sum of money and papers of value to the owner.

Saturday morning J. B. Jensen, new manager of the Sun Seelig store here, returned the wallet to Mr. Osborne. The contents were intact. Mr. Osborne had dropped the wallet in the Seelig store.

Mr. Jensen refused compensation for finding and returning the lost property.

McVea's "Howdy Band" will play at the Legion Auxiliary party in Legion hall February 14th.—Adv.

Observations

Nation Must Make an Example of Any Individuals Guilty of Fraud in Oil Scandal

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

REPUBLICANS and Democrats alike are aroused at the smirch cast on organized government by the astonishing revelations regarding the peddling of American oil reserves to private plunderers.

Consider a few of the salient points brought out by the senate investigation of the oil leases.

Go back fourteen years. Edwin Denby, now secretary of the navy, was then a congressman. Congress investigated the transfer of vast mineral rights in Alaska to the Morgan-Guggenheim interests. The Ballinger scandal resulted. Edwin Denby voted to absolve Ballinger. But the mineral concessions were cancelled and Ballinger was disgraced.

President Harding appointed Edwin Denby secretary of the navy in 1921. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. was named assistant secretary. Senator Albert Fall was appointed secretary of the interior.

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DENBY fourteen years before had voted in favor of Ballinger and the Guggenheims. Roosevelt was a director of the Sinclair Oil company, but sold his stock and resigned before taking office. Fall was a close personal friend of Harry Sinclair and E. L. Doheny, dominant figures in the American petroleum industry.

Now recall the events which transpired in the first few months of the Harding administration.

In the face of vigorous protests from high officers in the American navy, whose honesty stands out like a beacon light in the sordid gloom of corruption, two great oil reserves—one in California, one in Wyoming—were transferred from the control of the navy department to that of the department of the interior.

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E. L. DOHENY, president of the Pan American, loaned Secretary Fall \$100,000. The money was delivered in cash to Fall in a little black satchel, by Doheny's son.

Five months later the Pan American was granted a lease on the Elk Hills reserve. Mr. Doheny and Mr. Fall declare that the loan had nothing to do with the lease.

An agent of Harry Sinclair loaned Secretary Fall \$25,000 in Liberty bonds and advanced him \$10,000 for a Russian trip, for the purpose of investigating Russian oil lands for Sinclair.

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FALL gave Doheny a demand note for the \$100,000 loan. No interest has been paid on it since. On his return from Russia, Fall gave Sinclair's agent a note for \$25,000.

Sinclair later secured a lease from the government for the Teapot Dome reserve.

Doheny testified that his company would make one hundred million dollars on the Elk Hill lease.

The value to the Sinclair interests of Teapot Dome is estimated between \$100,000,000 and \$125,000,000.

When Senator La Follette demanded that all documents relating to leases of government reserves be sent to the committee, a truckload of papers were delivered.

They chuckled and said that nobody would take the trouble to read all those documents.

But somebody did read them. And the investigation resulted.

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MORE far-reaching and important than the leases themselves, than this apparent peddling of a nation's birthright, is the effect made by the transactions on the composite mind of the American body politic.

If high officials of the government are willing to and actually do sell our natural resources for personal gain, what then becomes of the hope that this experiment in democracy which we call our government shall succeed? If officials can and do sell the most priceless treasures of a people, they barter at the same time all the high dreams that we shall continue to exist as a free country. They cash our constitution and make collateral of our bill of rights.

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WE are a long suffering people, we Americans, more given to generous impulses than to severity. But our people, our country, our government, have suffered an outrage at the hands of a few, and the sacred rights of American citizenship demand swift justice.

This is no time for political expediency. Those oil lands should be returned to the government.

But even more important, everyone under suspicion should be prosecuted with all the power of the law.

Now is the time to establish a precedent. Now is the time to send down to the years ahead of us an example of what this nation does to American officials who line their purses with ill-gotten gains at the expense of the people, who plunder the storehouses of Nature on behalf of political privateers.

The issue is larger than the leases themselves.

The integrity of a nation is on trial.

The future of democracy is at stake.

The American people must serve notice on the world and on future officials that representatives who accept "loans" from men who seek public property find the wrath of an outraged nation at their heads.

We must make it plain and patent that national office is not a means to wealth; that the potent alchemy of righteous public wrath transmutes to brass the gold by servants of the people in plundering acquired.

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BUILDINGS and dwellings will go up in Torrance during 1924 as rapidly as they can be financed. Banks here are liberal on loans for building, but the demand for loans for construction is greater than the amount of capital available.

This is a free advertisement. But it is free advertisement for the benefit of the entire city and every person in it.

For every time a dwelling goes up, every time a business block is constructed, the population of Torrance increases. Increased population means increased value of land and buildings already up.

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TORRANCE cannot expect outsiders to have more confidence in the future of this city than the people of Torrance themselves display. And the people of Torrance have an opportunity to express their own confidence.

The Torrance Building and Loan association is the medium through which this faith may be voiced. This association loans what funds it has available for building purposes. At present all the money available in the company's funds is at work, having been loaned for construction. The company is now conducting a campaign for increased deposits. Attractive interest rates are paid. There is no safer and more solid investment anywhere.

Large or small payments may be made. Money deposited with the building and loan association comes back in many ways. It brings substantial interest. It goes out on loans for new homes and returns in increased property values.

It helps build up the city. It helps provide homes for men who work here and wish to live here.

No matter what your income, you can afford a deposit with the building and loan association. It's good business for you and an aid to the city.

Control Of State Exchange Sold To Bank Of Italy Men

Board of Directors and Officers Will Retain Positions, J. B. Hines Announces In Making Transfer Public

EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE IN TORRANCE

Entrance of Big Interests Into Financial Affairs of City Seen as Advantage by State Exchange President

Bank of Italy capitalists Saturday afternoon purchased controlling interest in the State Exchange Bank of Torrance.

The transfer was effected when representatives of the big financial institution of the Pacific coast bought a majority of the capital stock from directors of the local bank.

Officers and directors of the State Exchange bank will remain in their several capacities, despite the transfer of control.

The entrance into the Torrance field of such a great financial institution is regarded by business men here as one of the most important moves in the financial and commercial history of the city.

For several weeks it has been an open secret that Bank of Italy interests were considering Torrance as a promising location for a branch bank. Attracted by the brilliant future of Torrance as an industrial center, representatives of the big banking house decided it better policy to purchase a bank already in operation than to open a new one. They opened negotiations with directors of the State Exchange, with the result that the transaction was closed Saturday afternoon, at which time the majority stock was signed over in return for a cash consideration not made public.

Hines Sees Advantage
Commenting on the transfer of control, J. B. Hines, president of the State Exchange bank, said:

"The advantages of control of the bank by Bank of Italy interests must be apparent to anyone who appreciates the needs of Torrance. It means the entrance of the largest bank west of Chicago into the financial life of the city. The tremendous resources of the Bank of Italy and the steady climb of this institution to the highest position in western finance constitutes one of the romances of California

progress. Control of the bank here by such large interests means that the greatest banking house in the state will have a direct interest in the upbuilding and growth of this city.

"It is also gratifying to be able to announce that the transfer of control does not rob the bank of its local identity. All of the officers will remain as managing officers. The directorate will remain as it has been. Thus the advantages of the tremendous Bank of Italy resources are made available without loss of local interest.

"The bank becomes a working part of a great financial house, but contact with local affairs, persons and conditions remains unaltered.

"The desire of the Bank of Italy interests to enter the local field speaks much for Torrance. It demonstrates the confidence which the great financial interests of the state have in our city.

"Banks, as everyone knows, play an important part in the building up of a community. The strength and resources of a bank measure its ability to assist in the progress of the city in which it is located. So transfer of control of the State Exchange to interests with almost unlimited resources therefore strengthens the position of the city and speeds the whole community along the road of progress."

FATHER AND SON—BUILDERS

By THE MYSTERIOUS COWBOY

CONSTRUCTION GENIUSES



The present building program of the city of Torrance is noteworthy. The perfect ensemble of business blocks is a unique feature of the city. New modern blocks are constantly appearing; the residential section is expanding; streets are better ordered, and a new era of prosperity is manifest, as never before.

Torrance may well lay claim to a very able personnel in the building trade. Such a worthy pair as are pictured above, W. L. Reeve and his energetic young son, R. T. Reeve, are excellently equipped with technical knowledge and competent organization to serve the demands of this fast growing community. My articles are intended to reveal to the public the calibre of men who are just now contributing to much of this upbuilding. Thus I will tell you about Mr. Reeve and his son.

The elder, a native of Jacksonville, (Continued on Last Page)